



**JESSE BACON, SUPERINTENDENT**

**ADRIENNE USHER, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT**

**BRANDY HOWARD, CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER**

**TROY WOOD, CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER**

**TO:** Dr. Jesse Bacon, Superintendent

**FROM:** Dr. Adrienne Usher, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Brandy Howard, Chief Academic Officer

**RE:** Curriculum/Instructional Resources, etc. Approval

**DATE:** June 3, 2025

As of July 25, 2022, the Superintendent will oversee all curriculum, textbooks, instructional materials, and student support services per changes in Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS 160.345). The curriculum in each school shall be designed to achieve student capacities established by KRS 158.645 and the school goals established by KRS 158.6451. The curriculum shall comply with all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations. In any school administered under the provisions of KRS 160.345, the Superintendent shall determine which curriculum, textbooks, instructional materials, and student support services shall be provided in the school after consulting with the Board, the Principal, and the school council and after a reasonable public review and response period for all stakeholders. The attached documentation provides details on the following.

- School/Location
- Name of program or department requesting curriculum
- Applicable research and/or evidence-based findings for this curriculum (What Works ClearingHouse, EdReports, etc.)
- Explanation of curriculum materials including purpose, when will be utilized, content area, etc.
- Date of minimum two-week public stakeholder review by staff, parents, and the school community
- Review/approval date by Assistant Superintendent and/or Chief Academic Officer

Approval is requested of curriculum and/or instructional resources for district wide use along with several schools.

**OUR MISSION IS TO INSPIRE AND EQUIP OUR STUDENTS TO SUCCEED IN LIFE**

**BULLITT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS AN EQUAL EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION**

School/Program	Please provide what specific program and/or	Curriculum Material Name (software, textbooks)	Please provide applicable research and/or evidence-based findings for this curriculum (What Works ClearingHouse, EdReports, etc.).	Explanation of Curriculum Materials including purpose, when will be utilized,	Provide dates of when a minimum of a 2-week public stakeholder review by	Date when principal consulted/discussed with SBDM	Name	Asst. Super/C AO Approval
Central Office Department	MSD classrooms in the district	News 2 You	National research conducted by Dr. Dan Sullivan of the University of Minnesota shows that students who use newspapers in class score better on standardized reading tests than those who don't. The study examined programs in 22 cities across the country—with a combined 2,900 schools—and in all 22 cases, students who used newspapers achieved higher standardized reading test scores than those who didn't have access to newspapers in the classroom. The study results were reported in 2002 by the Newspaper Association of America Foundation.	News 2 you is a symbol-supported newspaper. Today, this online weekly newspaper differentiated to four levels, is bridging the gap for students in more than 60,000 classrooms across the country. <a href="https://www.n2y.com/news2you/">https://www.n2y.com/news2you/</a>	This program is recommended by staff. We are currently using this and it is effective.		Rebecca Keown	AU 6.2.25

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				Meet the wide array of learning and behavioral needs in your classroom with a strategic blend of hands-on, teacher-led instruction and technology-facilitate d lessons. Every single unit and lesson segment in enCORE is structured to flow through a gradual release of responsibility, guiding students from exposure to mastery. Whether you're modeling how to make a prediction during a read aloud in a whole group setting, practicing single-digit addition in small groups with discrete trial training, or monitoring student progress during independent work time, enCORE helps you do it all because your students need it all. Teachers have the flexibility to structure their classrooms based on their student needs, technology, and support professionals. The result?				

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Central Office Department	MSD Classrooms	Readtopia	Readtopia is a special education instructional program designed for teachers who work with middle and high school students with autism and other complex needs. It serves as an integrated comprehensive reading curriculum across several domains of study including ELA, Math, Social Studies, Life Skills, and Science.	Readtopia is a special education instructional program designed for teachers who work with middle and high school students with autism and other complex needs. It serves as an integrated comprehensive reading curriculum across several domains of study including ELA, Math, Social Studies, Life Skills, and Science.	This curriculum is currently being used in some high school classes and is an effective tool.		Becky Keown	AU 6.2.25



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			Extended texts like novels support understanding of character development, theme, and plot structure across time.  Citation: Shanahan, T. (2017). What is close reading? Reading Today. International Literacy Association.  Emphasizes using complex texts (including novels) to teach comprehension strategies and analytical skills.  Analyzing characters, themes, and author's craft in novels deepens higher-order thinking.  Citation: Duffy, G. G. (2014). Explaining Reading: A Resource for Explicit Teaching of the Common Core Standards. Guilford Press.  Reading fiction develops empathy and perspective-taking, especially when texts feature diverse characters.					
OMES	5th Grade	Instructional Materials Harry Potter	Citation: Johnson, D. R., & Garrison, S. M. (2017). Reading narrative fiction improves empathy. Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts, 11(3), 313-321.	<a href="https://linkwire.co/de signs/15572?version key=Version+3">https://linkwire.co/de signs/15572?version key=Version+3</a>	3/17	3/17/2025	Brittany Joiner	AU 6.2.25
BEHS	Character Strong	Workbooks, s	<a href="https://characterstrong.com/tier3/high-school">https://characterstrong.com/tier3/high-school</a>	<a href="https://characterstrong.com/tier3/high-school">https://characterstrong.com/tier3/high-school</a>	5/19/2025		Karlee Sp	BH 6.3.25
OMES	Simplify Writing	Simplify Writing	<a href="https://www.simplifywriting.com/research">https://www.simplifywriting.com/research</a>	Writing supplemental	4/13	4/13/2025	Brittany Jo	BH 6.3.25